THE SIXTH DAY.

26th February 1914.

The Assembly met again at 11 A. M. on the 26th February 1914.

104. Some suggestions for the improvement of the Hospitals and Vaidyasalas in the State.

Mr. Gangadharan Ramavarman Thirumulpad (Member, Sherthallai taluk) said that Ayurveda was the original science of medicine and that all other methods of treatment were only its branches. Till 1036 M. E., treatment by western methods had not been introduced into Travancore. He then compared the expenditure incurred on the Vaidyasalas and the Hospitals and said that comparatively very little attention was paid by the Government to the former. Though there were no facilities for taking accurate statistics, a careful enquiry would convince the Government that the people had greater faith in the Ayurvedic treatment, and the volume of good done by the grant-in-aid physicians and the numerous other Vaidyans, who received no recognition from the Government, was indeed very large. The Government had withdrawn the recognition shown to Vyakara Moossu of Kottayam with the death of the senior member of the family. He said, on behalf of the people, that it was their wish that the invaluable talents of the family should be perpetuated by continuing the grant of Rs. 35 to the son of the deceased Moossu. While all the departments of the State had been reorganised, it was regrettable that the Vaidyasala Department was alone not allowed the benefits of a reform. He therefore submitted the following proposals for the consideration of the Government:—

(1) A person, universally accepted as the best, should be appointed as the head of the Vaidyasala Department.

(2) A Vaidyasala should be established in an important and thickly populated centre in each division and a capable Vaidyan on decent salary appointed in charge. A medicinal garden should also be attached to each of those Vaidyasalas.

(3) A laboratory should be established at Trivandrum for the preparation of native medicines, and such medicines should be distributed to the Vaidyasalas according to the budget of expenditure to be sanctioned for each.

(4) One Superintendent on decent salary should be appointed to each of the divisions.

(5) The native Vaidyans receiving no grant from the Government should be required to maintain the same registers and accounts as were prescribed for the gran -in-aid institutions, and also to submit returns to the Superintendents at Governmen expense. The accounts so sent should be consolidated in the office of the Head of the Department and published in the Gazette once in every quarter.

In regard to the hospitals, the Member said that greater insistence and closer scrutiny were necessary in the matter of giving medicine to the poor among the out-patients and proper diet to the really poor that sought admission as in-patients.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

105. The opening of an Ayurvedic dispensary in the Manakad pakuthi of the Thodupuzha taluk.

Mr. Govindan Nilakantan (Member, Nominated) said that the grant-in-aid Vaidyasala and the Sirkar dispensary at Thodupuzha were situated within a distance

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